

NCFA Business Meeting
Saturday, February 21, 2009
CSU, Chico

Business meeting called to order at 7:05PM

Members present: Becky Opsata, Theresa Perry, Tina Lim, Jim Dobson, Tony Bernacchi, Julie, Hal Sanford, Mark Nelson, Greg, Kristin, Colin Murphy, Patrick Moe, Brandi Lawless, Steve Graham, Marlin Bates, Todd Guy, Jason Ames, Kay Harrison, Kristina Whalen, Alex Kramer, Suzanne Ruckle, Marina, Tim Elizondo, Jared Anderson

I. Setting tournament schedule

- a. Santa Rosa wanted to know if NCFA would prefer their tournament to be a swing tournament or not. The group left the decision to Santa Rosa
- b. Will there be a Mustang Invitational (IE only tournament) on November 6? Maybe we should recruit instructors to judge to give coaches rounds off? Most people vocalized support for rounds off.

II. Constitutional Convention (Thanks to Folsom for hosting the convention and for all that attended)

- a. Let's remove Junior division from IEs. There are not enough entries so we shouldn't be required to offer it which requires the purchase of additional trophies that we don't use. The Constitution shouldn't mandate it.
 - i. Marina - we should have offer Junior for large entry events.
 - ii. Kristina - mandate Junior for the 2 events (IMP and EXT).
 - iii. Consensus reached to change language to say "junior division offered at tournament director's discretion."
- b. Discussion on removing "sanctioning of tournaments" from constitution
 - i. Becky - we don't "do" this anymore. Furthermore, we shouldn't do this because folks that run invitationals should get to run their tournaments how they want rather than be bound to the NCFA rules. Most people in support.
 - ii. Marlin - not in favor of striking it because we may need it if a conflict of dates/events should arise.
 - iii. Consensus - Add language to say "Facilitate discussion to prevent weekend conflicts. Negotiate a tournament calendar for the region"
- c. Change collapsing section division on page 8, section 4, 2a - need to divide out by CEDA and Parli. Parli should follow NPDA rules for breaking ("In consistent with NPDA rules"). We need to have very clear rules rather than following CEDA.
- d. Steve raised issue of eligibility requirements (subpoint E4a, page 7) - would lie to remove high school experience. We need to clean up the language of 3 for debate "final" round or "elimination" rounds.

Discussion on whether or not breaking three times at three different tournament qualifies a team as novice or if more specific language is needed. People voiced preference for quarters, rather than semis or octofinals. 4B will be made consistent with debate.

- e. Sweepstakes – it’s awful as written in Constitution. Currently, we have to wait until everything event is finished to calculate which is exceedingly difficult. Suggestion to base sweepstake based on prelim performance. Most people were not in favor of this change, so no changes will be made.
- f. Page 3, article 8 – there are no selection or approval process in the bylaws, so the entire article will be removed.
- g. Page 11, very last thing (B5) – we need to separate out Parli and CEDA awards, rather than lumping “debate”
- h. We need to have something on videotaping events at tournament. Should we adopt CEDA’s policy that basically says there is implied consent until you dissent? The video may only be used for private sharing for educational purposes and not for distribution. We cannot sell due to copyright issues. Feel free to videotape as an organization or as an individual, but you cannot publicly distribute.
- i. IE ballots used today will be the sample ballot – everyone agreed on having consistent ballots for NCFA tournaments.
- j. Adding Cynthia ...’s name to speaker award. Team events points earned will be halved, but NOT Duo.
- k. Cap on Interstate Oratory? Do we want to put a dollar amount on this? After some back and forth, it was decided that a cap is necessary. The language will read “The NCFA will reimburse up to \$1500 for one student and one coach to attend as our representative”
- l. Harassment policy – we’ve chopped it out to work on it, but lots of organizations are still working on statements of professional conduct ... we’re governed by AFA, as members. Should we keep working on it? This was a pivotal year for discussion on what those things will look like and how things will work, but nothing has been set. We need more people to workshop it, perhaps at the coaches’ conference in the summer. (Marina, Julie, Kristina, Tony – committee to work on this)
- m. Marina – wellness initiative is in AFA bylaw which stipulates that a tournament day shouldn’t start before 8AM or go past 6:30PM. A lot of us can attest to this. We should re-visit this at the Coaches Conference for us to use. We should be diligent to try to make that an experience that doesn’t go into the wee hours of the night.
 - i. Jason – there are a lot of ways that tournaments can provide wellness, like water, so all should be included in the discussion.
 - ii. Todd – it depends on rooms. Do we need this in our Constitution? Do we cut rounds?
 - iii. Tabled to coaches conference
- n. Becky will make changes and e-mail out to approve.

III. Election of President.

- a. Jim nominates Patrick Moe, Kristina seconds.
 - b. Becky closes nomination. Jason seconds.
 - c. Patrick President starts in June.
- IV. Thanks to Becky Opsata for two years of outstanding service.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17PM.